

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a method of treating an untreated flow of liquid charged with particles and/or colloids, the flow is caused to flow in a coagulation zone that is kept turbulent and in which the flow is mixed with a coagulant. The untreated flow and a granular material which is insoluble in and more dense than the flow are caused to flow in an intermediate zone in which the granular material is maintained in suspension. The flow with substantially all of the added granular material and the colloids or particles aggregated therein is caused to flow in a sedimentation zone in which a clarified effluent is separated from sludge consisting of the granular material and the aggregated particles or colloids. The sedimentation zone has an undivided flow cross section, with no separator plates and the effluent is caused to flow therein at an average settling speed of at least 15 m/h.